

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action of Paper No. 10, dated April 7, 2004. Claims 1, 18 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 2-17, 19 and 21-24 are pending in the application. Claims 10-17 are allowable. Claims 2-9, 19 and 21-24 have been amended. In view of the subject material the examiner previously indicated as being allowable and the amendments herein, Applicant submits the case is in a condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In the office action, claims 2-9 were indicated as being directed toward allowable subject matter but were objected to as being dependent from the rejected base claim 1. Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 have been amended into independent form each incorporating therein the limitations of claim 1. Claim 1 has been cancelled. It is submitted that claims 2-6 are now in a condition for allowance.

Claims 7-9 depend from claim 6, and for the same reason set forth above with respect to claim 6, claims 7-9 are now in a condition for allowance.

Claims 10-17 are allowable.

In the office action, claim 21 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim 18 and the intervening claim 20. Claim 21 has been amended into independent form incorporating therein the limitations of claims 18 and 20. Claims 18 and 20 have been cancelled. It is submitted that claim 21 is now in a condition for allowance.

Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 21. It is submitted that claim 19 is patentable and now in a condition for allowance.

Claim 22 has been amended to depend from claim 21. It is submitted that claim 22 is patentable and now in a condition for allowance.

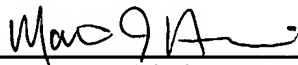
Claim 23 has been amended to depend from claim 21. It is submitted that claim 23 is patentable and now in a condition for allowance.

Claim 24 depends from claim 23 and is now in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks submitted, it is submitted that the above application is in a condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if any other matters require resolution prior to notification of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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